



SHINING MORE LIGHT INTO STATE GOVERNMENT

CENTRALIZING GOVERNMENT AUDITS ONLINE FOR A MORE TRANSPARENT GOVERNMENT

“Access to information about the conduct of the people’s business is a fundamental right that we must preserve at all costs.” (Gov. Schwarzenegger, 3/30/06)

Continuing his commitment to make California government more open and transparent, Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger today is signing an Executive Order (EO) that will make government audits and contracts easily accessible on the state’s [Reporting Government Transparency](#) Web site. While many of these audits are already available to the public, they may be difficult to find, or the public might not even know about their existence. This addition will ultimately provide a user-friendly inventory of audits and state contracts that will make it easier for the people to learn more about their government.

Governor Schwarzenegger is taking his commitment to transparency in government to a new level. By adding contracts and audits of government entities to his [Reporting Government Transparency](#) Web site, the Governor is continuing his work to put sunshine on state government for the people.

- **Now Californians have a one-stop shop to see how government entities fared in performance reviews.** Many of these audits are already available online, but are difficult to find or even learn about. Centralizing them on the Governor’s transparency Web site will change all that.
 - **Starting Today:** Audits of state agency and department operations dating back to January 1, 2008 performed by outside entities such as the Bureau of State Audits, State Controller, the Department of Finance, or a federal agency with oversight responsibility of their operations will be posted on the [Reporting Government Transparency](#) Web site.
- **The Governor will continue to ensure the public has access to even more information.**
 - **Starting June 12:** Financial and programmatic audits that agencies and departments have done on their own operations and audits that they have performed on other government entities dating back to January 1, 2008, shall be posted to the Reporting Government Transparency web site.
 - **Starting June 19:** The Department of General Services and the Office of the Chief Information Officer shall ensure that all awarded contracts valued at \$5,000 or more dating to March 2009, shall be placed on the Reporting Government Transparency web site.
- **With this Executive Order, the Governor is not only ensuring increased transparency for his administration but for those of future governors as well.**

Governor Schwarzenegger pledged to create a more open and transparent government - and he has followed through. From opening his schedule to the public, to making access to government records a civil right, Governor Schwarzenegger has made good on his promise to shine more light on state government. Some of his most prominent actions include:

- **Championing the Sunshine Initiative.** In 2004, the Governor championed and 83 percent of Californians approved [Proposition 59](#) to make access to government records and meetings a civil right under the California constitution.
- **Being the first sitting governor to open his public schedule:** In 2004, the Governor [opened his daily official state calendar](#) for public inspection. He has since made his official state calendar public, updated on a bi-weekly basis.
- **Ensuring full compliance for information requests.** In 2006, Governor Schwarzenegger issued [Executive Order S-03-06](#), directing California’s executive branch to train and ensure full compliance for information requests made under the California Public Records Act.

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- **Launching a government transparency Web site.** In 2009, Governor Schwarzenegger launched www.reportingtransparency.ca.gov to make publicly available the Statement of Economic Interests, Form 700, and the Travel Expense Claims for the Governor's Office Senior Staff and Deputies, Agency Secretaries, Agency Undersecretaries and Department Directors.
- **Cracking down on travel and income rules.** In 2009, the Governor [cracked down on travel and income rules](#), strengthening the policies and ensuring accountability. The Governor has since ensured that the travel and income forms his senior appointees are posted for public view at www.reportingtransparency.ca.gov.
- **Creating the first-in-the-nation Recovery Act Inspector General.** Governor Schwarzenegger named Los Angeles City Controller Laura Chick to be the [first-in-the-nation Inspector General](#) to act as watchdog over American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (Recovery Act) funds.